



Big Slash in School Suits

150
Boys' Suits
at
\$1.98
each

Now in the time to
purchase that boy's
waists. We sell
the
K. & S.
Tapeless Blouse at
50c ea.



G. J. MAIER
& Co.
Alma, Mich.

Sugar is way up.
U know that.
Gracious,
All of us do.
Right or wrong
It can't be helped.
Sugar makes candy.
High sugar
Is bad for us and
Good for the trusts.
Here at **BENNETT'S** we
Endeavor to sell Candy and
Right prices notwithstanding.

SHIPPING GRAIN TO ARMED EUROPE

Loading Cargo on Vessels a
Back Breaking Task.

NEEDS RARE GRIT AND SKILL

Trimming Gangs in Dust Laden
Steamship Holds Must Work
Unceasingly.

Nineteen hundred Americans returning from Europe on the Holland-American liner Nieuw Amsterdam brought thrilling stories of their flight from warring countries and of the nine days' ocean trip from Rotterdam. During her voyage the ship ran the gauntlet of British destroyers that fired across her bow in the English channel.

The first and second cabins, the baggage room and part of the hold of the Amsterdam were converted into sleeping quarters to accommodate American citizens willing to endure any physical discomfort to reach their own shores. Class and caste were ignored. The second class came up to swap stories of war adventures in the first cabin smoke room and with the women in the saloon.

A smudge of smoke showing over the horizon as the Amsterdam's passengers were making ready for dinner one night caused a panic when it developed into a British warship. From a distance of five miles the warship started her wireless to find out all about the Amsterdam and her ship's company.

The British cruiser was not satisfied. Swinging around in pursuit she came tearing along. Half a mile away two puffs of powder smoke curled away from port and the screams of whistling shells reached the panic stricken passengers on the Amsterdam.

The Amsterdam stopped, circled and headed for the warship. When a quarter of a mile away there followed much wagging of signal flags, the sputtering of wireless on both ships. The Essex was finally satisfied.

"Proceed; pleasant voyage," she signalled, steaming off.

Shell Fired Across Ship's Bow. Five hours after the Amsterdam left Rotterdam and was turning south toward the English channel the whistle of a shell fired across the ship's bow inspired a frenzied run for the deck. Soon thereafter a British destroyer circled the Amsterdam, while a lieutenant interviewed Captain Baron through a megaphone.

First came the peremptory command, "Disarm your wireless." Next a lot of questions: "Where was the Amsterdam bound? Of what does your cargo consist? What ports did she make?" The captain answered amiably. But there was one he didn't answer. It was:

"Have you seen any German warships?"

The Dutch captain had full knowledge of the purpose of his government to remain neutral.

Then the British lieutenant questioned the Amsterdam's passengers. "Do any of your ladies and gentlemen speak English?"

Five hundred shouted "Yes!" "Thanks," said the lieutenant. "Then you can tell me: Have you seen any German warships?"

"No!" the five hundred cried. "Thanks," piped the lieutenant. "You may proceed, captain; but keep your wireless unhooked until we have passed out."

Saw the Attack on Liege. Almost every one of the 1,934 American passengers of the Amsterdam had a story to tell of experiences in getting away from Germany, Austria, France, Belgium and Russia before the shooting started.

Matt Walter of Springfield, Mo., after being arrested three times by the military authorities of Germany, Belgium and Holland, started to walk two miles to the Belgian border, got lost, skirted the edges of Holland and Germany and got back into Germany.

Falling in with three Englishmen trying to get out of the zone of warfare, Walter says that he saw the Liege attack from four or five miles away. He described the constant thunder of big guns, rattle of musketry, passed hundreds of wounded soldiers being carried toward the German border, witnessed the flight of aeroplanes over the lines of battle, saw one of the air men brought to the earth by a "sky gun" and described the bombs he saw drop from some of these air craft, of which there were more than twenty.

LIEGE

Between the foe and France was she—France the immortal, France the free. The foe, like one vast, living sea, Drew nigh.

He dreamed that none his tide would stay. But when he bade her to make way, She, through her cannon, answer, "Nay, Not I!"

No tremor and no fear she showed; She held the pass, she barred the road. While death's unsleeping feet bestrode The ground.

So long as deeds of noblest worth Are sung 'mid joy and tears and mirth, Her glory shall to the ends of earth Resound.

Watched by a world that yearned to aid, Lonely she stood, but undismayed; Resplendent was the part she played—And pure

Praised be her heroes, proud her sons; She threw her soul into the guns; Her name shall with the lowliest ones Endure!

—William Watson in London Chronicle.

PARCEL POST EXHIBITS AT COUNTY FAIRS THIS FALL.

Authorized by Burleson to Familiarize
Farmers With Postal Facility.

To meet a widespread demand parcel post exhibits will be a feature at many of the thousands of county fairs and other rural gatherings to be held in the United States this fall. Postmaster General Burleson has authorized postmasters at all county seats to provide for the exhibits.

The purpose is to use an opportunity which, it is believed, offers an excellent means of showing the rural public how to take full advantage of this comparatively new postal facility. Scores of the postmasters took the initiative and wrote the department asking permission to install and conduct such visual demonstrations of the parcel service.

More particularly the county fair displays will give farmers an object lesson in the working of direct exchange between country and city of the less bulky articles of farm production. Sample packing boxes and containers such as have proved satisfactory in experiments conducted jointly by the postoffice department and the office of the markets of the department of agriculture are to be placed on view. Literature describing in detail how best to serve the necessities of city consumers, who will conduct the exhibits.

An appropriation is not available to meet the costs of preparing and maintaining postal displays of the kind. But the department is informed that in the majority of cases space for the government's use can be had free of charge. Suitable exhibits of sample containers and shipments can be prepared at little or no cost. Postmasters are authorized to give as much of their personal time and attention to the preparation of the exhibits as may be necessary.

RUSSIANS JEWS' SAD LOT.

Serving in Army Only Civil Rights, but
Czar Expected to Confer Equality.

It is reported that the czar will sign a proclamation at an early date giving the Jews in his dominions equal civil and political rights.

The sole civil or political right that the Russian born Jew shares with other Russians today is that of military service, which is compulsory.

Not only is the Russian Jew without the right to vote, hold office or otherwise participate in the civil or political affairs of the kingdom, but he is compelled to live within the "pale," a section consisting of twenty-five provinces of the Russian empire. A few privileged Jews are permitted residence in any part of Russia, but 93.9 per cent of Russian Jews are confined to the "pale."

Spies Like Forts to Resist Air Foe.

At Cologne and other large cities in Germany church towers have been fitted up as guard stations to watch for aeroplanes, and light guns now point to the skies beside the steeples.

HOW TO KEEP DOWN COST OF LIVING DURING WAR.

Here is a list of "don'ts" compiled by Commissioner of Weights and Measures Hartigan of New York for housewives who want to keep down the cost of living:

Don't be afraid of the shopkeeper.

Don't let him weigh the paper, twine, tray or any other container and charge you for it.

Don't accept a putup package unless it is labeled with its weight. There's a fine for not so marking it.

Don't let the butcher rest his finger on a projecting bone and don't let him press his body against the scale.

Don't let the tradesman engage you in gossip while he is weighing your purchase.

Don't forget to reweigh everything at home.

Don't be too proud or too lazy to do your own buying.

Don't buy in small quantities if you can help it.

Don't ask for a "nickel's worth." Specify weight or quantity.

THRILLS OF A SEA TRIP IN WAR TIME

A "Rough Voyage" Takes
on New Meaning.

NOW IS ONE OF ADVENTURE

Graphic Illustration of What to Expect
in Crossing the Ocean
—Warning Shots.

The export of grain leaves no material impression. It is lacking in the aspects of material construction, leaving nothing visible but the dust of the departed grain licking the slimy piles of recently vacated pier slips. Some of the grain laden vessels bear away more food than was known by the best provisioned Caesar. If the grain that has flowed to Europe from America for the past thirty years could be ridged in the ocean, says the New York Sun, it would make a solid road from Brooklyn to Brest.

Grain trimmers are controlled by a gang boss under the elevator superintendent. The boss is assured that each man possesses distinct merit allied to an unyielding spirit.

The work is fast and on account of the speedy departures of vessels involves irregular and prolonged labor spells. The dust is decidedly disagreeable, irritating throat, eyes and nostrils. But—and here the "but" looms large—the remuneration is excellent.

Their Pay is Good.

Trimmers are paid \$3.50 per thousand bushels and \$6 per thousand for grain loaded between 6 p. m. and 7 a. m. or on Sundays and state holidays. A trimmer on a good elevator during a fair season averages \$80 per week from the opening of the Erie canal in May until the ice king's clutch closes it in November. The Isis gang holds the record for one week's wage, \$83.00, made in July, 1913.

The complete and proper filling of grain holds is the essential of grain loading. Poor trimming invites disaster through shifting grain. To insure proper loading the rules require shifting boards built from the keelson flush with the hatch coaming. Trimmers detailed to the hold must be experts.

A ship officer, swathed in mouth and nostril dust protectors, usually attends at the most critical period in the hold. His powerful lamp flashes bars of light over the dim forms of the trimmers toiling desperately in the gloom.

Grain comes to the hold by a pipe projection from the hatch mouth. The grain torrent necessitates frequent changes, otherwise the hold gets blocked, causing a "ring off." A "ring off" means signaling to the weigher to raise the leg, causing a cessation of trimming in the emptying bays. Sponters and their men will work blind before subjecting themselves to the indignity of a "ring off."

Since the shovel has been replaced in the boats the hold work is more difficult and demands more men. Hold trimming knows no respite. The men must delve insistently into the piling grain and shovel grimly. Dust envelops the hold so thickly that men within a few feet of each other are unseen. Hold dust necessitates the wearing of sponges or other preventives. Two hours' insistent labor in a hard filled hold demands rare grit and stamina.

M'REYNOLDS AND GREGORY.

Attorney General Named as Supreme
Court Justice and His Successor.

The sending to the senate by President Wilson of the name of Attorney General James Clark McReynolds to be associate justice of the United States supreme court, to succeed the late Justice Horace Lurton, marks the first change in the Wilson cabinet. Mr. McReynolds was born at Elkton, Ky., Feb. 3, 1862, and is the son of Dr. John C. McReynolds. He was graduated from the law school of the University of Virginia in 1884. For years after this he was engaged in private practice at Nashville and from 1900 to 1903 served in addition as a professor in the law school of Vanderbilt university. From 1903 to 1907 he was assistant attorney general of the United States and moved to New York after giving up this office.

Thomas W. Gregory of Texas, special assistant attorney general in handling the New Haven railroad case and who will succeed McReynolds, was born at Crawfordsville, Miss., Nov. 6, 1861, and was graduated from the southwestern Presbyterian university. He was admitted to the Texas bar in 1885 and practiced law in the state for many years.

Child's Severed Foot Replaced.

A miracle of surgical science has been performed on Ralph Powell, three years old, of Sharon Hill, Pa., at the Presbyterian hospital, Philadelphia. One foot, which was severed through both bones and all the arteries but one by a mowing machine, is being knitted to the ankle again. Dr. Edward R. Hodze, chief surgeon at the hospital, asserts the operation is one of the rarest he has ever known and that in performing it the surgeons took one chance of success in a thousand.

FARM ORGANIZATION.

A worker in the federal office of Farm Management has this to say upon organization in farming:

"The greatest profit in farming requires the creation of the greatest value at the least expense. But the deliberate creation of values is the result of labor intelligently applied. Hence the objects to be attained in the organization of the farm business are:

"First.—To provide the largest amount of work practicable under the conditions.

"Second.—To apply this work at all times to such enterprises and in such manner as will result in the creation of the greatest values.

"Third.—So to distribute this work throughout the season that (a) the farmer and the working members of his family may be continuously employed; (b) they may do a maximum proportion of the farm work themselves, thus saving the expense of hired labor; and (c) a minimum of work stock and implements may be required to farm a given area with a given type of farming."

COW TESTING ASSOCIATIONS.

These Organizations Have Proved of
Great Benefit in Australia.

The cow testing association has demonstrated beyond question its possibilities of usefulness to the dairyman. It is, in our opinion, one of the most promising means of increasing the profitability of the dairy business.

The systematic use of the scales and the tester will pick out the most and the least profitable animals as no eye, however expert it may be, can. It has again and again been shown that even the best judgment and experience sometimes go wrong in attempting to select the best cow. But there is no disputing the scales and the tester records of facts.

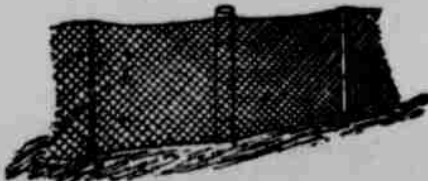
The mere finding out of the facts about one's cows, important though this is, is not the greatest benefit to be obtained from the cow testing association. The careful and accurate work necessary to obtain a correct statement of the debts and credits against a cow tend to develop in her owner habits of studying his whole business in the same careful and detailed manner. The importance of this phase of the work should not be overlooked.

Most of us know altogether too little about our business. We are wont to resent any suggestion that we don't know our own business better than any one else. But suppose we stop and ask ourselves a few questions like these: How much does it cost me to feed a cow a year? What is the value of the labor expended on her? What sum of money does she bring in during the year? How many of us could answer these questions even approximately?

We venture to say that no man could join a cow testing association and carry on the work carefully and well without materially increasing his knowledge of his own business, particularly of his cows, and materially adding to his profits.—Sydney Farm Journal.

Stays For Woven Wire.

There is usually some trouble in putting up woven wire, especially the light wire used for chicken fences, in such a way that it appears neat and substantial. This is sometimes avoided by use of more posts than are necessary for the support of the fence. To avoid this excessive number of posts and at the same time make the fence neat and effective the method shown



NEAT AND SUBSTANTIAL.

In the sketch is used with good effect. The light stays are merely strips of one inch by one inch material of a length equal to the height of the fence. These strips are notched at the ends and are then placed along the fence at about four foot intervals, the top strand of the fence being put into one notch and the bottom strand into the other.

TIMELY GARDEN HINTS.

Keep suckers off the young blackberry and raspberry bushes. Pinch off runners and blossoms from newly set strawberry plants and the tips of "cap" raspberry plants when two feet high.

Watch the newly planted fruit trees and small fruits. Rub off all shoots at the bases and on the trunks of trees and surplus shoots on branches. Allow two shoots to grow on young grapevines.

All shrubbery that has ceased to bloom should have the dead blooms removed. Cut out any wood that has died since spring. Crimson rambling roses growing on pillars for masses of bloom should be cut back six inches to each stem after blooming has ceased.

Go over all the beds and borders frequently and remove all decayed flowers before they form seed. This will keep them in bloom and preserve the beauty of the garden.—Country Gentleman.



CHIC MOIRE FROCK.

No material has been so fashionable as has moire this season, and here it is developed in the typical design of the season—the pannier drapery, the dropped shoulder and the narrow skirt. The beaded sash in the front gives an interesting oriental suggestion. The odd girdle is snap fastened to place.

Last Good Opportunity
to See

G. A. R.

The Forty-eighth Annual National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at Detroit, August 31 to September 5, 1914, and the Citizens Committee on arrangements has prepared an elaborate program for the entertainment of the honored veterans of the nation. This may be the last opportunity that Michigan people will have of cheering the survivors of the great conflict—certainly it is the most opportune occasion.

Attend the Big Parade
Wednesday, September 2

The Pere Marquette railroad will afford the most convenient service from all Michigan points. For full particulars consult your nearest Pere Marquette ticket agent.

W. E. WOLFENDEN,
Federal Passenger Agent



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GRAY & GRAY

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Delicious pastry. Well cooked food.

"The model restaurant of Gratiot county."

TOE NAILS

If they give, a catastrophe follows.

Sink them in the kind of wood that will hold them, and that means

ARKANSAS SOFT PINE

It holds nails however they are driven.
It contains no shake, nor does it split easily.

Arkansas Soft Pine is economy lumber and is in keeping with the high standard quality of our complete line of building materials.

Good materials are economical materials and that is the kind we sell and the kind you should use.

Here is the place to get them.

We're not satisfied unless you are.

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Record Liners Pay. Cost But Little.